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Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

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Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is mandated by General Assembly resolution 67/128 and is a compilation of replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities made available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

* A/68/50.

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I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX), Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI), offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme has been included in successive editions of the guide entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions, the most recent of which is resolution 67/128, the Secretary-General submits to the General Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized.[1] The present report, which covers the period from 16 March 2012 to 18 March 2013, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 67/128.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 60 States Members of the United Nations listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the relevant General Assembly resolutions:

> Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. One non-member State, the Holy See, has also offered scholarships.

[1] The most recent report is contained in document A/67/74.

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Argentina

7. In a note verbale dated 30 January 2013, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations requested that the following paragraphs be included in the present report:

> The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 2065 (XX) and in subsequent resolutions, and the Special Committee on decolonization, have described the question of the Malvinas Islands as a special and particular colonial situation involving a sovereignty dispute between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, have established that the way to put an end to that situation is the peaceful and negotiated solution of the sovereignty dispute and have requested both Governments to continue without delay the bilateral negotiations recommended by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.
>
> Despite the illegal British occupation, the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands are part of the Argentine national territory, and their inhabitants have equality of access with the rest of the Argentine population to the Argentine public education system. This includes free education at the primary, secondary and tertiary/university levels, as well as the benefits of the national scholarship programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Argentine Republic.

Mexico

8. In a note verbale dated 7 February 2013, the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

> In compliance with resolution 61/124, entitled "Offers by Member States of Study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories", adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, the Mexican Government offers scholarships to study for:
>
> - Specialized, Master's or PhD degrees
> - PhD-level research
> - Post-doctoral research
>
> Scholarships for Bachelor's degrees are not granted.
>
> Eligibility:
>
> The scholarships are offered to citizens of the Non-Self-Governing Territories: American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Gibraltar, Guam, Montserrat, New Caledonia, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands, the US Virgin Islands and Western Sahara.

Benefits:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Academic costs (registration, tuition and tutoring fees).
- Monthly stipend, equivalent to: 7,479.60 pesos (Mex $) (equivalent to $570.79) for studying the Spanish language or for a Master's degree or specialization.
- Mex $9,349.50 pesos (equivalent to $713.49) for studying for a PhD degree, PhD research or post-doctoral research.
- International transportation from their place or origin to Mexico at the beginning of the scholarship and from Mexico to their place of origin at the end of the scholarship.
- National transportation from Mexico City to the place of study at the beginning of the scholarship and back to Mexico City at the end of the scholarship.
- IMSS health insurance, since the third month of the scholarship.

Additional information regarding the list of Mexican study programmes and institutions of higher education, including scholarships, requirements and benefits, can be obtained from the website of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (http://www.sre.gob.mx/becas).

New Zealand

9. In a note verbale dated 20 February 2013, the Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

> In previous years the Government of New Zealand funded and administered scholarships for Tokelau directly. However, New Zealand now provides budget support to the Government of Tokelau to provide and administer scholarships, in an effort to enhance both scholarship holders' course completion rates and the proportion of scholars who return to live in Tokelau following the completion of their studies. Tokelau has a focus on undergraduate tertiary education, and is currently providing scholarships for 23 undergraduate students at tertiary education institutions in Fiji, Vanuatu and New Zealand.
>
> As New Zealand citizens, Tokelauans are also eligible for a range of domestic scholarships as well as Government-subsidized access to New Zealand educational facilities.

III. Applications made through the United Nations

10. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the United Nations Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

11. From 16 March 2012 to 18 March 2013, no requests for information on the availability of scholarships were received by the Secretariat.

IV. Conclusion

12. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.